

WILSON CONSIDERING STEPS TO BRING PEACE

Has Long Conference With Dr. Paul
Ritter, Minister From
Switzerland.

COMPLETES HIS MESSAGE

Said to Carry Notification to Europe
That United States Desires to End
War and Is Ready to Act on Sug-
gestions.

WASHINGTON, November 22.—The report that this government soon will take some step formally to urge peace in Europe was emphasized to-day by a long conference at the White House between President Wilson and Dr. Paul Ritter, minister from Switzerland.

The diplomat is understood to have assured the chief executive the Swiss government would lend every possible aid in an effort to end the war.

It was admitted that President Wilson has his agents in the field and will launch a plan as soon as there is the slightest assurance that it can be made effective. No details of the conference with Dr. Ritter were made public.

"Publicly at this time would be most harmful," said a member of the White House family. "Not a day passes that the President does not have the matter under consideration, but it is too soon to talk."

WILL TAKE ADVANTAGE

OF FIRST OPPORTUNITY
President as having made this state-
ment:

"I have my ear to the ground and will take advantage of the first opportunity to accomplish results in the way of peace. It is the biggest problem before the civilized world."

The President completed his message late this afternoon and sent it over to the executive offices to be forwarded to the public printer. It contained no suggestion that Congress should place an embargo on food exports. The President had in mind, it is said, when he considered this vital subject, that the belligerents might construe it as an act of selfishness that would eliminate from the peace suggestions the tone of genuine sincerity which prompts him in the matter.

The message is declared to carry a formal notification to Europe that the United States very greatly desires peace and stands ready to act promptly on any suggestion that may be made.

FACTORS SAID TO FAVOR

CONTINUATION OF WAR

The President's desire to keep the details of his peace plans secret is said to be due to definite information that there are strong factions among all the belligerents who feel that the war should be fought to a decisive end. These factions are linked closely with large and powerful financial institutions in the United States. The belief prevails at the White House that these financial interests would not hesitate to place obstacles in the way of any movement which conflicted with their money-making schemes.

The charge of demanding peace at a period when either side could claim a distinct advantage is also to be avoided. If the plan is to be successful, President Wilson believes.

The analysis made by President Wilson on the November 7 election has convinced him that the German vote cast against him did not indicate hostility to his policies in a degree sufficient to cause alarm. There is no indication in the principal circles of strong sympathy for Germany in a manner of carrying on the war, but the impression is known to prevail that the Kaiser's government will be willing to consider peace terms as soon as the allies are willing to enter negotiations with the central powers on an even footing.

LOOKING TO WILSON

TO START MOVEMENT

The representative of one of Europe's foremost neutral countries said to-day: "All neutral Europe and perhaps many people in the warring countries look to President Wilson to initiate the peace movement."

The neutral nations see the Somme offensive suspended, the central empires and Bulgaria advancing in Roumania; the entente forces advancing in Serbia; elsewhere there is not likely to be another major offensive until the spring.

"These neutral countries believe if President Wilson would suggest to the fighting governments that they arrange an armistice for, say, one month, and send representatives to some place where they may gather around the green table and discuss a possible peace, the soldiers will not be sent into battle again."

"This plan would give peace and reason a chance, would discover the means, if there are any, of bringing the war to an end."

CONFERENCE MIGHT

BE HELD IN WASHINGTON

The conference might be held in Washington under the presidency of President Wilson; at The Hague, or in Switzerland. The two latter places would afford perfect telegraphic and courier facilities if the delegates desired to keep in closest and quickest touch with their respective governments.

"Without some action from a neutral source, it is doubtful if the war can be stopped possibly for years. But with an appeal in the name of humanity and civilization such as President Wilson would make, the belligerents would be compelled by world opinion to pause. The pause, neutral Europe believes, would mark the beginning of the peace."

EIGHT-HOUR LAW

HELD INVALID BY
FEDERAL COURT

(Continued From First Page.)

while an appeal from a final order or decree in such a case would go direct to the Supreme Court of the United States. In the former a decision would be inconclusive, in the latter a decision would definitely settle the question for the whole country. The motion to dismiss the case here, however, it is decided, will promptly result in a final decree from which an appeal will be taken to the Supreme Court.

The assistance of this court has been invoked to facilitate a final and authoritative information of the constitutional question. The question was presented but yesterday, and a decision is expected to-day. It is far from being an agreeable duty for a judge to record a judicial conclusion without the care and deliberation essential to a conviction that he would stand in every circumstance. Upon the merits of the case the government neither asks nor receives from a court greater consideration than is required by the settled rules and presumptions of law, but a request by the Department of Justice to aid the progress of a case consistently with the rights of

every one cannot be declined, certainly not for personal considerations.

DIRECTED TO CO-OPERATE

IN LODGING APPEAL

"Upon a consideration of the Adamson law and of what is said of its practical effect and what was intended to be accomplished by it, the judgment is that the court construes the terms of the law it cannot be sustained. Since both parties have said they would not plead further, whatever the decision might be, a decree will be entered for the plaintiff, reciting that the defendant prays and is allowed an appeal in an open court. The case in which the plaintiffs were appointed receivers is in charge of the judge who is acting here. An order will be entered in that case directing plaintiffs and their counsel to co-operate with the Department of Justice in lodging the appeal in the Supreme Court by December 1 next, and in then moving for the advancement thereof for such early hearing as the court may find it consistent to grant, and to appoint counsel for all railroad companies and others similarly interested in the question involved to participate in the presentation of the motion to advance and in the arguments on the merits as fully as though their clients were parties to this litigation. Though the decree of the court in the case here will be final in form, yet because of the exceptional circumstances, the plaintiffs will be directed to keep their accounts and be prepared promptly to pay their employees on the basis of the Adamson law should the decree be not sustained."

TRY TO AGREE ON ONE SUIT

ON WHICH TO MAKE TEST

WASHINGTON, November 22.—Attorney-General Gregory and lawyers representing the railroad companies met in conference several hours to-day, but failed to agree on terms by which one of the many railroad suits attacking the Adamson act might be made a test and expedited to the Supreme Court for an early decision on its constitutionality.

Both the Attorney-General and the railroad counsel declined to name the point of disagreement, but it was understood that both parties still are of the opinion that a test case should be had, and that the main question is in selecting the particular case. The conference will be resumed to-morrow.

The Department of Justice is said to have insisted that the case of the Missouri, Oklahoma and Gulf Railroad, which Federal Judge Hook in Kansas City to-day held the Adamson act unconstitutional, should be the test case. The railroad attorneys, however, were not convinced the formal issues presented by that case were broad enough to cover all points that might be developed against the Adamson act in a case involving a larger property. They were inclined to insist that the case of the Topeka and Santa Fe case, which is set for hearing to-morrow at Kansas City, would present the questions with more force to the carriers.

It was pointed out to-night that the railroad men here have had no opportunity to read the complaint. Railroad lawyers said that conditions on different roads might be vastly different. They desire that any case that goes to the Supreme Court under their agreement that it be a test case, shall involve some road where conditions are as nearly typical as possible.

There was no indication to-night that the differences cannot be reconciled. The department is anxious to get an early decision on the constitutionality of the Adamson law, but it also is anxious to avoid a multiplicity of decisions to all the many actions already brought. An understanding with the attorneys in the conference to-day would bring all the principal railroad suits within the agreement, and there would be a stipulation that actions begun would be dropped and that no preliminary Court decision was barred down.

The only comment to-night from the Department of Justice on the decision of Judge Hook was this statement from Attorney-General Gregory: "At the request of the Department of Justice, the Missouri, Oklahoma and Gulf Railroad, in the suit filed by the Missouri, Oklahoma and Gulf Railroad, decision instantly with the department, so as to make it possible for the Supreme Court to decide the question involved before the law goes into effect on January 1 next. Appeal of the case will be perfected to-day."

Although officials familiar with Supreme Court procedure were not inclined to believe that a decision could be had by January 1, department officers were hopeful that a way would be found to do so.

UNCERTAIN OF EFFECT

ON OTHER SUITS

(By Associated Press.)
CHICAGO, November 22.—Railroad heads and attorneys here to-night were uncertain what effect the decision in the Kansas City Court holding the Adamson law unconstitutional would have upon suits brought by other lines that are seeking a fight against the act.

E. P. Ripley, president of the Atchafalaya, Topeka and Santa Fe Railroad, declared that the decision had been anticipated by practically every railroad lawyer in the country who had studied the bill carefully.

"We will endeavor to get a decision in our case, and will fight the law to the last," he added.

Charged With Stealing Tent

Kidd Bloomberg, forty-two years old, of New York, was arrested yesterday charged with the theft of a tent, valued at \$15, the property of the Southern Tent and Awning Company.

MOTHER'S REMEDY

FOR BRUISES

Children's Bumps, Sprains and
Minor Hurts Quickly Relieved
by Sloan's Liniment.

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Sloan's Liniment

KILLS PAIN

MEXICANS ASK SLIGHT CHANGE IN U. S. PROPOSAL

Will Not Alter Materially Real Mean-
ing, but Save Commissioners
From Humiliation.

ANOTHER MEETING TO-DAY

Americans Determined Not to Have
Any Restrictions Which Would
Prevent Sending of Troops Across
Border After Raiders.

(By Associated Press.)
ATLANTA, Ga., November 22.—With the announcement to-night that the Mexican-American Joint Commission would meet again to-morrow, "as usual," the prospect was believed to be fairly bright for an amicable agreement being reached for border control and protection of American lives and property in the neighboring republic.

It was learned to-night, however, that the Mexican representatives had not as yet sent to their government a report of the presentation of the American proposals, which were described as representing the final attitude of the United States.

It became known to-night that the commissioners have considered a slight alteration of the American proposal, which, if agreed to, would make probable an agreement. It was pointed out that the suggested alteration would not change materially the real meaning of the program submitted to the Mexican commissioners, but would save them the humiliation of signing a document in which there appeared the formal consent of the Mexican government for the violation of its territory by troops of the United States.

It was explained that the real stumbling block is the determination of the Americans not to have any restrictions placed on the American government should the occasion again arise for sending troops across the border into Mexico after raiders.

AMUSEMENTS

ANNA CASE AND RUDOLPH GANZ

W. Hubert Bates very considerably added to his stature as an impresario last night, when he presented, in the City Auditorium, one of the few concert series this half-generation can look back upon as having been virtually without a flaw. There aren't many on the short list: Gadsk's, Blanche Marchesi's, one of David Bispham's, three of the New York Philharmonic society and perhaps a few others are all that are recalled at this moment. Many others have been superb in general, but have suffered from moments of weakness, of something less than the best.

But the recital of last night was— to repeat—virtually without a flaw. Three artists were called upon again and again to make music for an audience which was, at least, not altogether receptive at the outset. These three were Anna Case, soprano; Rudolph Ganz, pianist and virtuoso; and Charles Gilbert Spross, accompanist and pianist. Of the three, only Mr. Ganz had been heard here before; he played with Mr. Stravinsky in the same hall nearly four years ago.

At that time he made a deep impression, and last night he set it so firmly that it will be many a day before another artist obliterated any of it. Nor is there any reason why he should be forgotten. He is a virtuoso, a technician, extraordinary, a facile performer whose dexterity and skill seem to have no limit of achievement. He is clean-cut, as well in appearance as in performance, free from affectation, and of unusually pleasing presence. And in addition to this equipment, he is an artist, all man-artist, in that he is vigorous, virile, and with none of the "precious" in his work. Wherefore, his part of the program was a revelation in many respects, even to those who have been listening to pianists, great and small, all their lives. Nothing has been played here in this day with more varied expression, ranging from the majestic to the dancing, than was the

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Macdowell "Sonata Eroica" by Mr. Ganz last night; Chopin's music was never more gracefully sung than was the group that formed his second number, ballad, studies, with marvelous left-hand work, nocturne and waltz. Liszt was never played here with more fire, abandon and thrill than Mr. Ganz imparted to the "Hungarian March" with which he closed his last number, composed of a piece of his own, a belching eccentricity, a slozskowski fantasy and a wild, half-mad romance of the Finnish Schibani. Mr. Ganz is spoken of first, because he appeared first.

But Miss Case made a place for herself, won it fairly, too. With one exception, no soprano has been so rapturously recalled here within the last twenty years of so, not has better deserved to be. She is lovely and gracious and winning and all that. But far more, she is a rare singer—her gift of voice is rare and her use of it is still more rare. As a song-singer, she is practically alone among the sopranos who have appeared here. The four songs with which she began, established that, since they served to disclose the purest of lyric voices, beautiful, soft and devoid of vibrato, and gave her opportunity to show her complete command of all her resources of flexibility, breadth, control, distinctness of enunciation, and all the other technical equipment of which she is possessed. They pretty well ran the gamut, too, from the Rubinstein melody, and the nightingale refrain, and the light Mendelssohn song to the prayer-like plaint of Schubert, and the joyous abandon of Mr. Spross's "That's the World in June."

Later, came another group of songs, all charming, particularly the "Dissolution of Rondo," a veritable complement to Copland's "Mousetone." But it was in the Handel aria from "Theodora" that Miss Case reached her highest point. In that, she sang with a flowing suppleness, one of perfect poise and perfect quality, supplying an example of legato singing that has not been surpassed here in my day. As for her portamento, the glide from one note to another, it might well stand as an illustration of the purity of beauty. And, though she sang the glittering pyrotechnics and the Rêflet in all of the "Mad Scene" from "Lucia," in addition to her own moment, her most satisfying opera bit was the "Deuxième Jour," from "Louise," which she

sang with radiant beauty of voice and an emotional expression. For encores, among others, she did the Rimsky-Korsakov "Indian Song"—in English—"My Laddie," and Mr. Spross's own "Will-o'-the-Wisp." Though he is a noted composer, Mr. Spross played for Miss Case, and not for himself. After having heard his sympathetic, helpful and artistic performance at the piano last night, it is easy to understand why Charles Gilbert Spross is one of the most sought-after accompanists in America.

The Ballet Russe.

Announcement is made that, though the demand for seats has justified the management of the Academy of Music in looking to the Ballet Russe for presentation in Richmond, reservations may still be had. For some strange reason—or for no reason at all—the management of the ballet has not yet indicated that a program will be presented here. It is understood, however, that "Prince Igor" will be one of the pantomimes, and that, among others, "Sadko" will also be presented. This last was never seen in this country until a few weeks ago, when it was produced in New York, where it created a sensation by reason of its strange beauty.

Mutt and Jeff Are Killing 'Em.

They're still laughing up at the Bijou over the antics of Mutt and Jeff. The best proof of anything, and everything about this comedy-with-some-music is that there are few seats left for any of the performances throughout the week, and what few are left will probably be sold long before the curtain rises on the last performance.

Lyric's Midweek Change.

Tabloid comedy, with song interpolations, presented by Victor Morley and a company of eleven, will feature the new bill that opens at the Lyric this afternoon. "A Regular Army Man" is the title of the short-order comedy, which is the work of Clanning Pollock and Renold Wolf. The same brothers, on the same bill, will offer a novelty in the form of an exhibition of their skill in throwing battle-axes. Funmaking is the specialty of Skipp and Kastrop, singers, dancers and all-round entertainers, while Kelly



Rudolph Ganz
whose masterly playing delighted the audience
at City Auditorium last evening.

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and Galvin, character impersonators, supply another round of nonpareils. Their skit, "The Actor and the Italian Immigrant." Closing the show will come the "Three Skating Venuses," the Jacksons, a trio of young women who combine an exhibition of their skill on rollers with